

## Message Text

SECRET

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16

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 VO-03 INSE-00 L-03

SS-20 NSC-10 PRS-01 SCA-01 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 FBIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01

PM-07 /099 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9048

S E C R E T TOKYO 0084

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, JA, UR

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR ASYLUM BY SOVIET NATIONAL PETR NIKOLAYEVICH  
KHOROSHKO

REF: STATE 002101

1. RESULTS FURTHER DEBRIEFING SUBJECT REF BY EMBOFFS AND INS  
REP TOKYO 6 JANUARY AS FOLLOWS.

A. FLIGHT. SUBJECT JUMPED SHIP AT MIDNIGHT ONE JANUARY AT  
POINT SIXTEEN MILES OFF HAKODATE. CHOSE THAT SPOT AND TIME BE-  
CAUSE HE CALCULATED THAT DISTANCE, WIND AND CURRENT GAVE HIM  
FIFTY PERCENT CHANCE OF REACHING SHORE. PICKED UP TWO DAYS  
LATER, AT 2000 ON THREE JANUARY, BY FERRY BOAT. SUBJECT UN-  
CONCIOUS BY THIS TIME AND DOES NOT RECALL RESCUE. TURNED OVER  
TO COAST GUARD, WHICH INFORMED FOREIGN OFFICE. HAD LARGE  
COLLECTION OF PERSONAL DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING SUCH ITEMS AS  
DIPLOMAS, BIRTH CERTIFICATE, KOMSOMOL CARD, ETC. IN HIS  
POSSESSION, BUT NO PASSPORT OR SEAMAN'S BOOK. THIS RETAINED  
BY SHIP'S CAPTAIN. HE THUS IN JAPAN ILLEGALLY.

B. FAMILY. PARENTS LIVE IN BARANOVICH, BREST OBLAST, BYELO-  
RUSSIAN SSR, WHERE SUBJECT BORN. FATHER A RAILWAY WORKER.

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MOTHER EMPLOYED BY POST OFFICE. HAS ONE OLDER SISTER AND

ONE YOUNGER BROTHER. FAMILY OF HUMBLE ORIGIN AND MODEST MEANS. SUBJECT NOT MARRIED AND HAS NEVER BEEN MARRIED.

C. EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT. SUBJECT ENROLLED KLAIPEDA NAVIGATION SCHOOL IN 1964. GRADUATED AS TECHNICIAN IN 1967. DURING 1967-1971 WORKED AS THIRD AND THEN SECOND OFFICER ABOARD FISHING TRAWLER ATTACHED TO KLAIPEDA OCEAN FISHERY FLEET. DURING THIS PERIOD TRAVELLED GUINEA, CANARY ISLANDS, SAPIN AND ICELAND, HIS ONLY OVERSEAS TRAVEL. MADE BRIEF SHORE VISITS DURING THESE TRIPS. IN 1971 DECIDED QUIT THIS JOB BECAUSE OF CRAMPED LIVING CONDITIONS ABOARD SHIP AND SET OUT FOR SAKHALIN. SETTLED IN KHOLMSK, WHERE GOT JOB AS THIRD OFFICER ABOARD BOATS ATTACHED TO FISHING FLEET THERE. THEN TOOK JOB FOR TIME WORKING AS LABORER ON DOCKS IN KHOLMSK. FROM NOV 72 TO MARCH 73 STUDIED MARINE ENGINEERING AT THE FAR EAST HIGHER MARINE ENGINEERING SCHOOL IN VLADIVOSTOK. WHEN HE LEFT THIS INSTITUTE HE GOT JOB AS REPAIRMAN IN THE FAR EAST HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN VLADIVOSTOK, WHERE HE WORKED UNTIL NOVEMBER 73. HE THEN GOT JOB ABOARD FISHING RESEARCH BOAT KHOROFEY OPERATING OUT OF VLADIVOSTOK, FROM WHICH SHIP HE FLED ON ONE JANUARY. SAYS SHIP CARRIED FIVE SCIENTISTS WHO DOING FISHERIES RESEARCH, TAKING SOUNDINGS, MEASURING SALINITY, CURRENTS, STUDYING FISH CATCH, ETC. AS FAR AS HE KNOWS THEIR SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES LIMITED TO THOSE CONCERNING FISHERIES. SAYS, HOWEVER, THAT HE BELIEVES THE FAR EAST HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE INVOLVED IN SECRET RESEARCH, ALTHOUGH HE HIMSELF WORKED ONLY AS SHIP'S REPAIRMAN AND HAD NO ACCESS TO RESEARCH ACTIVITIES. SAID THE INSTITUTE SENT ONE OR TWO SHIPS TO SURVEILLE FRENCH ATOMIC TESTS IN PACIFIC, AND SAID THAT CERTAIN AREAS OF THE INSTITUTE WERE OFF LIMITS TO SUPPORT PERSONNEL, SUCH AS HIMSELF, STATIONED THERE.

D. KOMSOMOL/OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES. SUBJECT SAID HE JOINED THE KOMSOMOL IN 1962, AS DID OTHERS IN HIS SCHOOL. HE IS STILL A MEMBER. HAS NEVER HELD ANY OFFICE IN THE KOMSOMOL, BUT HAS WORKED AS CARTOONIST AND ARTIST FOR KOMSOMOL WALL NEWSPAPERS. IS NOT A CP MEMBER. CLAIMS HE HAS REFUSED SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS FROM HIS SUPERIORS OVER THE YEARS TO APPLY FOR PARTY MEMBERSHIP. HAS HELD UNOFFICIAL  
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POSITION AS "KOMSORG", OR KOMSOMOL ORGANIZER ABOARD SHIP ON TWO OCCASIONS, BUT ASSERTS THAT HE ASSIGNED THIS BECAUSE HE HAD MORE EDUCATION THAN THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CREW. WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE DRUZHNIKI WHEN ASHORE IN KLAIPEDA, BUT SAID HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THIS AFTER HE WENT TO SAKHALIN. ONLY OTHER ORGANIZATION HE EVER BELONGED TO WAS PROFSOYUZ. SERVED ABOARD SHIP AS PROFSOYUZ CHAIRMAN, AGAIN BECAUSE OF HIS EDUCATION.

2. SUBJECT HAD WRITTEN OUT REQUEST FOR ASYLUM IN U.S., GIVING AS HIS REASON DESIRE TO LIVE IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY WHICH ENJOYS FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS. ALSO SIGNED AFFIDAVIT THAT HAS NO CRIMINAL RECORD IN USSR. CLAIMS WANTS TO GO TO THE U.S. HAD NOT CONSIDERED ANY OTHER COUNTRY. SAID HAS BEEN PLANNING THIS MOVE SINCE WENT TO SAKHALIN IN 1971. UNFORTUNATELY, BECAUSE HE WOULD NOT MAKE OUT APPLICATION FOR PARTY MEMBERSHIP HIS EXIT VISA WAS CANCELLED, AND HE WAS NOT ALLOWED ABOARD SHIPS TRAVELLING TO FOREIGN PORTS. FLIGHT FROM SHIP IN WATERS OFF HAKODATE WAS BEST CHANCE HE HAD GOTTEN, SO DECIDED TO TAKE IT, EVEN THOUGH HE THOUGHT HE HAD ONLY EVEN CHANCE OF SURVIVING. CLAIMS HE WILLING TAKE ANY JOB HE CAN FIND IN U.S. SPEAKS FEW WORDS OF ENGLISH, THOUGH CANNOT CONVERSE.

3. IMPRESSION OF DEBRIEFERS IS THAT SUBJECT PROBABLY TELLING TRUTH ABOUT BACKGROUND AND THAT HE UNDOUBTEDLY SINCERE, AS EVIDENCED BY DANGEROUS ESCAPE, IN DESIRE GO TO U.S. ALTHOUGH STILL SUFFERING FROM EFFECTS OF EXPOSURE, HE RESPONDED READILY TO ALL QUESTIONS. GOT UPSET ONLY WHEN FONOFF OFFICER TOLD HIM HE WOULD HAVE TO CONFRONT SOVEMB REPRESENTATIVES. THIS TENTATIVELY ARRANGED FOR 7 JANUARY.

4. INS REPRESENTATIVE TOKYO RECOMMENDS FAVORABLY IN THIS CASE, AND AWAITS AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO OI 212.5(A) . PLEASE ADVISE.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL ASYLUM, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, POLITICAL DEFECTORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 JAN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** SREF, JA, UR, (KHOROSHKO, PETR N)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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